



**TOP SECRET**

**MEMORANDUM TO THE FILES**

**Subject: JIOA Meeting, April 24, 1946.**

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650000-0434

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

REVIEWED BY *[Signature]* DATE *3/18/47*

APR 24 1946

RDS FOR ADJUTANT. DATE

TO AUTH. P.A. ON (2)

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EXEMPT FROM FOI EXEMPTIONS

*note see 4/24*

This morning I attended a meeting of the JIOA in the New War Department Building. The meeting was attended by representatives of ONI, G-2 and A-8. It was presided over by Captain Wey of the Navy Department and a Captain Abbott. Captain Abbott seemed to be ex officio member. In the course of the meeting it appeared, according to Captain Abbott, that 1,300 scientists had been selected and that this number was to be cut down to 1,000 and that 177 were in the United States in custody for re-entry as immigrants. A Colonel Wentworth appeared toward the end of the meeting as representative of the Theatre Commander. He said, and others apparently also agreed, that attempts were being made in the American Zone to prevent kidnapping or departures of certain types of scientists from the American Zone but that it seemed more desirable to get the men into the United States.

I explained, several times, and at some length, that the State Department had a statutory duty to prevent the entry of people who would affect our security, and that it was not sufficient for us to get a certificate that a man was not a Nazi, or that he was a good scientist. What we were concerned with I said was the difficulty of assurances that the men in question would not take more than they gave and would not use the United States as the place for continuing a technology which they would bring back to Germany at a later date. I also pointed out the difficulties of anti-trust laws, and the like, which might be involved in certain types of employment in the United States, such as I. G. Farben men working at duPont.

There seemed to be considerable confusion among the people present as to just what the State Department would do to compel entry of the scientists selected by the War and Navy Departments. I agreed to produce a

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statement of the requirements for immigration and the steps to be taken by the Department to facilitate immigration and a statement of the quota situation.

In the course of the meeting it became clear that the Departments may not employ these men at all but simply arrange to have them work for private contractors, the chief interest of the Departments in most cases being to keep the men from being kidnapped or hired in the Russian Zone.

Separate questions were raised with respect to the re-entry of the 177 men now here. I said that I thought that this was a matter of State Department facilitation which would be handled by the Visa Division. It was pointed out that should it be necessary to enter Canada, Canadian agreement might be obtained through the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

This afternoon, on my return from lunch, I learned that Messrs. Riddleberger and Lightner of CE desired to talk with me. Mr. Lightner explained, coming to my office, that Mr. Riddleberger had received a call from Lieut. Commander Snapp (one of the persons present at the meeting) complaining that I was not implementing the State Department's commitments, etc. I explained the story to Lightner, pointing out that I had read the EC file and talked with Cummings and Bradford. Lightner pointed out to me that he had seen the SWNCC memorandum on the subject and that perhaps they had not considered all of the difficulties. We discussed the possibility of the intermediate positions for the scientists as between staying in Germany and immigrating permanently to the United States, the type of CIC investigation, the provisions of contracts of employment to prevent frustration, and the conduct of special intelligence investigations of the VDI, and similar German organizations.

Mr. Lightner also explained that there was another directive for scientists wanted by other Departments, and private industry, and that this was to be implemented by an agency in the Department of Commerce. He stressed the desirability of my representing the State Department for both those purposes, in formulating proper objectives, policies, procedures, etc. I told him that I would like to have a Departmental Committee of which he would be a member to go over a proposed program. He said that he

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would be happy to leave the whole thing in my hands, etc., but I told him that I would keep him informed, in any event.

I then conferred with Cummings and Bradford by phone and thereafter with Alexander and Bradford by phone. Alexander agreed to prepare a memorandum for discussion on the Visa Division's requirements under this program. He told me that the quota for Germany was large enough to take care of these scientists, provided that the President directed their admission. He explained that at the present time 90% of the quota is kept for displaced persons, and the like, but that he assumed that the President had, at a recent Cabinet meeting, agreed to permit this program to be carried out, if limited to a small number of persons and done without publicity. He assumed, although he had not seen any order, that the President has authorized the admission. He also said that the immigration authorities would not permit anyone to enter the country on a visitor's visa if he intended to work here, but that this was a matter of dispute between Immigration and State. Alexander said further that the Department was opposed to letting immigrants in via Canada and that an order was being drafted by him now on this subject. He said further that the Army had promised to take the 177 men back to Germany. The Attorney General in any event would have to authorize temporary admission where there is a contract of employment. Alexander also stated that there was need for an Interdepartmental Board to pass on these cases and that he would consider this subject in the memorandum.

Both Lightner and Alexander seemed of the opinion that the figure of 1,000 persons was much too high.

Cummings called then and said that he had received a call from G-2 complaining that my attitude this morning was not cooperative and asking if the Department could not send someone else. Cummings explained that Colonel McCormack would have to make any appointments but that my views were his, Cummings' views, and that the opinion in the Department on this subject was divided. I told Cummings that in the event of a future call it would be well to say that the Department would carry out the agreement and that there was no division of opinion on that subject but that we must be concerned with the problem of security.

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